

PRESS RELEASE

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WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR THE "REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, DESIGN!" T-SHIRT CONTEST

Frederick, MD- The Frederick County Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) has selected the winners of its 2016 "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Design!" T-Shirt Contest. The announcement is part of the county's recognition of Earth Day, the international awareness event for environmental issues, which occurs each year on April 22.

The recent contest was open to all County residents and garnered 283 entries. Participants were asked to illustrate the importance of the "3 R's" – reduce, reuse, recycle – with a design that could be used to convey its message on a shirt. Contest submissions were received from residents ages 5 and up and were judged on their relevance, artistry and appropriateness for use as a t-shirt design. County staff selected a grand prize winner and two school honor award winners. A selection of entries was also posted online for voting on a "Community Choice" selection. (The artwork posted online may still be viewed at: www.facebook.com/frederickrecycles.)

The grand prize winner is John Wysong of Frederick. Mr. Wysong will receive a \$150 prepaid gift card and have his artwork featured on t-shirts that will be distributed by the Department of Solid Waste Management at community events. The elementary grades honor award winner is Austin Mogollon, a fourth grade student at St. John Regional Catholic School. The secondary grades honor award winner is Jordan Best, a seventh grade student at Urbana Middle School. These students will each receive a \$50 prepaid gift card. The entry that received the most votes on the DSWM Facebook page was created by Zoë Dombo, a second grade student at St. John Regional Catholic School; she has won the "Community Choice" and will receive a \$100 prepaid gift card. All awards and costs associated with this contest, including the production of the finished t-shirts, are funded by a grant received from Waste Management Recycle America.

"Earth Day is a perfect time to raise awareness of the importance of the "three R's," commented Recycling Program Manager Cindy Johnson. "We really appreciate the time and creativity that the contest participants put into their artwork, just as we are thankful for the efforts of everyone in our community who does their part to reduce, reuse and recycle."

For more information on this and other local waste reduction and recycling initiatives, please visit the DSWM website at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/recycle or call 301-600-2960.